

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE 4CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
3 April 1982

## Attorney resigns in spy case

New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON—Department of Justice officials say that a United States attorney in San Diego has been asked to resign. The request came a week after the attorney, William H. Kennedy, disclosed that the Central Intelligence Agency had played a role in blocking prosecution of a former Mexican government official in a major criminal case.

The officials reported Thursday that Kennedy, appointed as United States attorney by President Reagan last year, was asked Wednesday to resign.

It was unknown whether Kennedy had acceded to the request.

His wife, Patricia, declined to call her husband to the telephone when news agencies called his home, and she would say only, "There's no comment."

LAST WEEK, in an interview published by the San Diego Union, Kennedy disclosed that the Justice Department had blocked prosecution of the former chief of Mexico's national police in an \$8 million stolen-car case after the CIA advised that the Mexican was a key intelligence source in Central America.

In the interview, Kennedy had asserted that since last November the department has withheld approval of the indictment of Miguel Nassar Haro, the former head of the Mexico's Directorate of Federal Security, because the CIA had told the department that Nassar was its "most important source in Mexico and Central America."

Senior Reagan administration officials said Nassar's connections with the CIA were considered particularly sensitive because the intelligence information he provided involved the activities of guerrilla leaders from El Salvador and Guatemala.

Kennedy was summoned to Washington for meetings with senior department officials Monday and was reprimanded for making the disclosure. Initially, department officials indicated Kennedy would be permitted to keep his job but said they later decided his comments violated government rules prohibiting the release of grand jury information.